

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council****Federal Tax ID: 92-0135368****Project Title:**

# **Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council - Cook Inlet Ice Conditions Analysis and Forecast Equipment**

**State Funding Requested: \$ 72,000**  
One-Time Need**House District: Kenai Areawide (33-35)****Brief Project Description:**

Install and network up to nine cameras in middle and upper Cook Inlet facilities - both on and offshore.

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$82,000**

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
Other	\$10,000	FY08				
Total	\$10,000					

*Explanation of Other Funds:*

\$10,000 matching funds from CIRAC

Potential "in kind" donations from Inlet platform owners.

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Initially, up to nine cameras will be placed at middle and upper Cook Inlet facilities. Live video feed will allow multiple state and federal governmental agencies to view the middle and upper Cook Inlet to identify a single event, or to track an event from one location to the next. The video network user group consists of the NOAA Ice Forecaster, the U.S. Coast Guard, mariners, facility operators, oil spill responders, and scientific users.

The recent grounding of the Sea Bulk Pride oil tanker, after it broke loose from the Tesoro dock due to ice conditions, emphasizes the need for a comprehensive ice condition monitoring and forecasting system in the Cook Inlet.

**Project Timeline:**

Upon notification of inclusion in the capital budget, the project will be bid and purchased - constructed within two years.

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Same as supplier, to be determined by competitive bid

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Contact Name: Mike Munger

Phone Number: 283-7222

Address: 910 Highland Ave., Kenai, AK 99611

Email: [munger@circac.org](mailto:munger@circac.org)Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

- **Chuitna Coal Mine**

The Kenai Peninsula Borough continues to support the permitting process for the Chuitna Coal Mine within the Beluga coal fields on the west side of Cook Inlet. This project has been under review since the 1980's and successfully completed some of the required permitting in the early 1990's. Unfavorable market conditions that halted development of the project in the mid-1990's have improved and the project is completing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement prior to a project sanction. If the Chuitna Coal Mine is ultimately sanctioned for development it will generate several hundred construction and operational jobs that will be based within the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Additionally, the development of the Chuitna Coal Mine will offer opportunities for new coal based industries in the Kenai Peninsula Borough including coal gasification, coal to liquids and coal based power generation.

- **Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council Research & Safety Funding**

The Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) encourages the continued development of natural resources in Cook Inlet. The KPB supports the many projects done by the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (Cook Inlet RCAC) to ensure that resource development in Cook Inlet region is performed in an environmentally responsible manner. Cook Inlet RCAC represents the citizens of Cook Inlet and whose mission is to promote environmentally safe marine transportation and oil facility operations in the Cook Inlet region. The KPB especially supports the work and research done by Cook Inlet RCAC that provides information to improve decision-making abilities related to pollution prevention and the review of oil discharge contingency plans. In an effort to better understand potential risks from oil spills to Kenai Peninsula and Cook Inlet shorelines, KPB has partnered with Cook Inlet RCAC to generate several programs that review non-tank vessel contingency plans, develop site-specific oil spill response plans, evaluate the integrity of sub-sea pipelines, monitor contaminants in beach sediments, and improve oil spill trajectory models. The KPB encourages state and federal funding of at least \$250,000 toward projects and programs identified in the Cook Inlet Regional Citizen's Advisory Council Strategic Plan.

- **State of Alaska Energy Policy**

The Kenai Peninsula Borough supports an energy policy for the State of Alaska based on the adoption of guiding principles and goals. This policy will guide all levels of state and local government in the formation of legislation, regulations and initiatives that directly affect the exploration, development and delivery of all necessary energy sources that will serve residents, businesses and industries into the future. A State Energy Policy will also provide clarity and stability to energy development companies and energy reliant businesses and industries, thereby promoting healthy economic growth for Alaska.

While many of the principles and goals may already be in use or development by various agencies, departments and divisions of state and local government, the Kenai Peninsula Borough believes they should be incorporated into a comprehensive policy that will provide for consistent, understandable and uniform guidance to all levels of government in an effort to promote unity and efficiency in effort.